Attorney Docket No. F-727-DIV (ATOF – 30032-2-DIV)

AMENDMENT

Remarks

Claims 34 and 36-60 are pending in the application.

The Examiner has withdrawn all previous grounds for rejection that were asserted in the Office Action of May 7, 2003 in view of Applicants response of October 6, 2003.

The Examiner has asserted, as the sole basis for rejection, the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, based upon U.S. Patent No. 6,348,272, which are commonly owned by the assignee of the present application.

Applicants had previously submitted a terminal disclaimer in the prior-filed response of March 4, 2004, which at the time was believed sufficient to overcome the Examiner's remaining rejections with respect to double patenting. In a phone conversation with the Examiner on June 1, 2004, however, the Examiner informed Applicants' attorney that the previously submitted terminal disclaimer was informal because the attorney-signatory of the terminal disclaimer was not an attorney of record.

Although a power of attorney in the parent application listed the attorney-signatory as an attorney of record for the parent application, now U.S. Patent No. 6,348,272B1, the Examiner informed Applicants' attorney that the power of attorney was insufficient for the terminal disclaimer previously filed for the present application.

Applicants are submitting a new power of attorney for the present application designating the undersigned as an attorney of record. A new terminal disclaimer signed by the designated attorney of record is also being submitted with this response. It is believed that this should now be sufficient to overcome the Examiner's remaining rejections with respect to double patenting.

Since the terminal disclaimer fee required under 37 C.F.R.§1.20(d) has already been paid, it is believed that no further terminal disclaimer fee is necessary. Should it be determined, however, that that further terminal disclaimer fees are necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1899.

Applicants submit that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

If any further extension of time is believed necessary, such extension is hereby by requested. If any fees are deemed necessary for the continued prosecution of the present application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1899.

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AMENDMENT

All future correspondence with respect to the above-referenced application should be addressed to:

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Date: June 11, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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